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vation are at nearly every point antiquated. The Turkish land system which has many surprising analogies with that still left over from feudalism farther west, is discouragingly bad. Various are the parasitic types it has developed. The heavy taxes are unaccompanied by needed gains to the people, as, for example, by the construction of ways of communication. Though three continents are in adjacency, the railroads are few and under foreign control and in each case they serve the political ends of their owners as well as economic ends (Totomianz expects that English, French, and American capital will complete the Bagdad railway). Coal and iron abound, even in close association, but modern industry has not begun. Silk grows finely, but no organization of its manufacture has appeared. Like the Venetians and Genoese, the Armenians have been made traders by the advantageous cross-roads position of their country.

The book is much more an account of what is wrong in the condition of Armenia than a program of action. A great deal, however, that needs to be done stands forth by implication. The author does indeed stop to lay stress on coöperative enterprise (he is a well known advocate of coöperation), some forms of which are very old among the Armenians, and on banks of the Raiffeisen type. Emigration he deplores as "a grave damage to the integrity of the Armenian people."

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*World-Power and Evolution.* By ELLSWORTH HUNTINGTON.  
(New Haven: Yale University Press. 1919. Pp. 287.  
\$2.50.)

This new book of Professor Huntington's possesses all the strong and weak points of his previous writings. In common with *The Pulse of Asia, Palestine and Its Transformation*, or *Civilization and Climate* it combines originality of ideas, clearness of expression, and wealth of laboriously collected and effectively handled material with an overemphasizing of certain phenomena and a willingness to arrive at far-reaching conclusions upon what would seem to many insufficient data. It is true that a number of the author's statements indicate that he is aware of his bias; but this cannot free him from accusation that he is one sided and that, in the pursuit of corroborative evidence for his thesis, he does not always analyze carefully his facts either regarding their impor-

tance or their relationship as to cause and effect. While one can find some excuse for the enthusiasm with which Dr. Huntington expounds his highly interesting theory, one can hardly acquiesce in his view that "only when the world realizes that the human race must be bred as carefully as race horses," will there be time "for a book in which training, heredity, and environment receive exactly equal emphasis" (p. 8). It is neither possible nor desirable to discuss here the question whether each of these three factors should receive equal emphasis when one deals with the vicissitudes in the life of nations and with causes which have brought about the progress of humanity; one thing, however, is certain, and that is that the cause of scientific truth is not benefited by throwing, as Dr. Huntington has done, one hypothesis into such relief as to overshadow all the others.

The writer undertakes in this work to apply to all the ages, from the prehistoric to the most modern times, his well known thesis of pulsatory climatic changes and of the control which such changes have been exercising upon all the important manifestations of organic life. The book covers a wide range of topics. From a discussion of the relation between business depressions and health, the author passes to a consideration of the extreme sensitiveness with which human body and mind respond to heat and cold, to humidity and dryness. He then takes the reader back to the Glacial Period advancing a new theory of the cause of mutations, *i.e.*, the appearance of new species. This is followed by a study of the factors which have brought about the mental evolution of men and the origin of new types amongst them as well as amongst animals. The work concludes with an investigation of conditions in ancient and mediaeval Rome and modern Turkey and Germany in so far as the people of these countries have exemplified, according to the writer, by their conduct the validity of his contention that a favorable, stimulating climate is the main cause of virility, mental and physical alertness, power of initiative, ability to achieve success and to withstand reverses, while unfavorable climate leads to stupidity, laziness, cruelty, and decay.

When dealing with the effect of health upon business, Dr. Huntington attempts to show that an increase or decrease in the amount of sickness, itself largely determined by the state of the weather, plays a predominant part in the ebb and flow of the stock market, in the rise and fall of prices, in the fluctuations of prosperity, and of immigration. In order to substantiate his

theory the author resorts to a method of statistical correlation. He plots alongside a curve representing the fluctuations in death rates, and another curve showing the results of civil service examinations (the first introduced to indicate the condition of health and the second that of mental power), a number of other curves drawn for the purpose of indicating graphically fluctuations in business prosperity. The coincidence between the upward and downward movement of the latter curves with the first two is used by Dr. Huntington as corroborative evidence for his thesis that ill health precedes and is one of the main causes of financial depressions. The author shifts in his diagrams the New York clearing house transactions line three years to the left, the price of commodities and the national bank deposits line four years to the left and the immigration line five years to the left. There is no reason why the lag should be as it appears, and the shifting has been done in each case obviously after the writer has found that but for such shifting there would be little coincidence between the curves. The procedure certainly does not add to the convincingness of Dr. Huntington's statistical proofs.

Taken as a whole the book is intensely interesting and full of valuable suggestions; it should not be overlooked by any student of the causes of human progress and of economic and social conditions in different parts of the world.

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#### NEW BOOKS

BARKER, J. E. *Modern Germany. Its rise, growth, downfall, and future.* Sixth edition, entirely rewritten and very greatly enlarged. (New York: Dutton. 1919. Pp. ix, 496. \$6.)

BAUERLEIN, G. W. *The book of New Orleans and the industrial South.* (Kansas City, Mo.: Ferry-Hanly Advertising Co., 1120 Walnut St. 1919. Pp. 63. \$1.)

BOND, B. W., JR. *The quit-rent system in the American colonies.* (New Haven: Yale Univ. Press. 1919. \$3.)

This careful study of the aristocratic, feudal features of our colonial land system illustrates anew the truth that here in America as elsewhere free institutions are the result of gradual evolution. The book shows that instead of land being free in this country from the first, as is often loosely asserted, the fact is that nowhere in the British colonies outside of Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and Connecticut, was there an acre of land that was not held of a lord,